

# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RONALD J. TENPAS  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

---

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

---

For Immediate Release

**FEBRUARY 11, 2005**

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 10, 2005, **MARK W. ENGLISH**, age 36 of Elizabethtown, Illinois, pled guilty in United States District Court at Benton to an Information charging him with manufacturing in excess of 100 marijuana plants between April 2004 and May 5, 2004. The charges resulted from the execution of two federal search warrants on May 5, 2004, at ENGLISH's residence and at an unoccupied residence being used by ENGLISH to house an indoor marijuana growing operation.

Sentencing was set for May 20, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. at the Benton Federal Courthouse. The charges carry a minimum term of 5 years imprisonment and a maximum term of 40 years, a fine of up to a \$4 million, and a term of at least 4 years' supervised release to follow incarceration.

Information leading to the filing of the charges was obtained through the cooperative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the Illinois State Police, and the Hardin County State's Attorney.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.